

April 6, 2020

Assistance for Patients from Nunavut

To All CancerCare Manitoba Care Providers:

Is your patient from Nunavut? For cancer patients required to come to Winnipeg for care **AND** for patients who may be eligible for a telephone or TeleHealth appointment, it is important to consider how to best plan these appointments with patients and their community care providers. A good example: a patient from Nunavut is coming to CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB) for both treatment and a clinic appointment. Kivalliq Inuit Services can assist in facilitating the clinic appointment by providing access to a private and secure telephone connection if required, and ensure the patient also has transportation for their treatment.

At this time, CCMB and the province are treating Nunavut patients as if they were Manitoba residents, so there is no requirement for the patient to isolate in Winnipeg PRIOR to attending appointments. All screening questions at facility entry points will be asked.

It is important, however, for you to know that if your patient is coming to Winnipeg for care, they will be required by the Government of Nunavut to remain in isolation here in Winnipeg for 14 days after their last appointment with CancerCare Manitoba or the health care system. They will also be in isolation when they return to Nunavut.

It is very important to continue ongoing discussion with patients about their needs during this challenging time. At this time, funding is secured for the client and **an escort** to remain in Winnipeg with safe and secure housing until they are cleared to return home to their community. Patient escorts will likely be coming with patients as the escort may be required to support the patient while they are in Winnipeg. For each patient attending an in-person appointment or treatment visit in a CCMB facility, it is you the care provider who makes the decision if the escort being on site with the patient meets the exceptional circumstances criteria and if the escort is allowed to be present. Escorts will continue to be screened daily as well.

Please remember to send patient appointments to Kivalliq Inuit Services. Also please continue to connect with Kivalliq Inuit Services to assist in planning and supporting CCMB patients from Nunavut. Kivalliq Inuit Services is very invested in each patient's care.

Kivalliq Inuit Services contact:

Fax: 204-989-1025

Phone for appointments: 204-989-1021

Kivalliq Inuit Services Nurses: 204-989-1030

If you have concerns with your patient's ability to access recommended cancer care, please connect with:

Allison Wiens

Education & Liaison Nurse – Health Equity Underserved Populations Program First Nations, Metis, Inuit Cancer Control Community Oncology Program - CancerCare Manitoba

Email: awiens4@cancercare.mb.ca

Phone: 204-787-4583

Cell: 204-799-0971